CBI raids at residences of MTNL Employees, Mumbai

3144. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that residences of more than 60 MTNL senior officials were raided by the CBI at Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details of the raid and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) CBI(ACB), Mumbai has raided the residential and office premises of 9 MTNL officials and 6 parties at Mumbai in connection with the alleged irregularities in the award and execution of "reinstatement work" contracts.

(c) Cases have been registered by CBI against MTNL officials and parties.

Clearance of waiting list of Idgah Telephone Exchange

3145. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons in the waiting list for granting telephone connections in Idgah Telephone Exchange of Delhi;

(b) what steps are being taken to clear the backlog and to provide the connection; and

(c) by when the waiting list upto July 2000 is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Sir, 1735 persons are on waiting list for provisioning of telephone connections in Idgah Telephone Exchange of Delhi.

(b) New technology equipment is being inducted in outdoor plant to make the area technically feasible to clear the backlog and to provide telephone connections.

(c) Efforts are afoot to provide telephone connections progressively by March 2001, to the persons on waiting list upto July 2000.